

USCGC DECISIVE (WMEC 629)

Command Philosophy

As your Commanding Officer, I am committed to providing a positive command environment that is founded in mutual respect, trust, & integrity, and that instills pride & professionalism in everything we do.

No two Commanding Officers are exactly alike...with each comes new perspectives & expectations. As such, I offer you my Command Philosophy which I have developed over the course of my career.

Coast Guard Core Values

The Coast Guard's core values serve as a guide. So we are all clear, this is my interpretation of them:

Honor: We demonstrate honor by **having a sense of what is right and wrong** and by doing the right thing at the right time - for our shipmates, our ship, our families, and the Coast Guard.

Respect: Show respect by taking care of each other. **Treat each other** – and the public - **as you would like to be treated**. Treat your shipmates everyday like you would treat them on a boarding...watch each others backs, trust each other to do the right thing, be there to help each other over the rail if necessary.

Devotion to Duty: This means completing each task to the very best of our abilities. Even the smallest job contributes to the ship's mission readiness in some important way and deserves to be done with a sense of ownership and personal pride. **We all owe each other a 100% effort in doing our jobs; I'll expect it from you, and you can expect it from me.**

My Guiding Principles

Safety: We work in a dangerous environment and the safety of our ship and shipmates will always come first. I view safety as everyone's job and **I want you to adhere to safety regulations and common sense**, whether we are at sea, inport, or on liberty. Stay heads-up, constantly evaluate risk levels as you go about your jobs, and never hesitate to speak up if you think something is unsafe.

Professionalism: The public and our peers will always consider us to be professional and skilled mariners. Do not give them a reason to doubt that we are anything but that! **I will expect you to be professional** in your appearance, in your conduct, in the way you maintain our ship, and in the way you execute our missions.

Communication: Good communication is based on the truth, which in turn depends on clear and open communication of the facts. **I will always strive to keep you informed** & will give you the plain facts as I know them. In return **I expect the same from you**. I value the perspectives of every shipmate, so never hesitate to give me bad news. Use the Chain of Command early & often to express your thoughts, concerns, or ideas.

Enjoy Yourself: I firmly believe that going to sea is an adventure and that your time on DECISIVE should be rewarding and memorable. I realize our jobs can be stressful, so I also urge you to keep things in perspective and to take time for yourselves and families. **I want you to have fun out here, to taste a little adventure, and to enjoy your tour aboard DECISIVE**. I will do my best to make that happen. Remember, there is a reason why there are "sea stories" but not "shore stories"....

CDR E. M. Giese
Commanding Officer
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